

The
First
Presbyterian
Church
of
Jackson



“To Glorify God, And Enjoy Him Forever”

THE LORD'S DAY

The Fourteenth Day of September, Two Thousand Twenty-Five
MORNING WORSHIP
Eight-Thirty and Eleven O'Clock

The Reverend Dr. David T. A. Strain
Senior Minister

The Reverend Mr. Scott H. Miller
Minister of Young Adults and College

APPROACHING GOD'S THRONE

The Greetings and Announcements (8:25 and 10:55 a.m.)

The Prelude — "Meditation on Land of Rest"Gerald Near
Ms. Liz Goff, Organ

The Introit — "How Glorious Is Your Name" Mark Hayes
O Lord, our Lord, how glorious,
How glorious is your name throughout the earth, O Lord!

The Call to Worship

The Hymn No. 83 — "O Praise the Lord, for He Is Good" (Psalm 107:1-9)

The Invocation

The Doxology — "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" tune: *Old Hundredth*
Praise God from Whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Prayer of Confession

The Assurance of Pardon

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father, Almighty,
Maker of Heaven and Earth:
And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell;
the third day he arose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

SEEKING GOD'S FACE

The Hymn No. 94 — "How Firm a Foundation"

The Scripture Reading — Ezra 1:1-11pew Bible page 389

The Pastoral Prayer

The Offering

The Offertory — “Redeemer of Israel” Mack Wilberg

Redeemer of Israel, our only delight, on Whom for a blessing we call,
our shadow by day, and our pillar by night, our King, our Deliverer, our All!

We know He is coming to gather His sheep, and lead them to Zion in love;
For why in the valley of death should they weep or in the lone wilderness rove?

How long we have wandered as strangers in sin, and cried in the desert for Thee!
Our foes have rejoiced when our sorrows they've seen, but Israel will shortly be free.

As children of Zion, good tidings for us: the tokens already appear.
Fear not and be just, for the kingdom is ours. The hour of redemption is near.

HEARING GOD’S WORD

The Prayer of Illumination

The Scripture Reading — 1 Timothy 3:1-7pew Bible page 992

The Sermon — **Life in the Household of God: Overseers**..... Dr. Strain

The Hymn No. 304 (stz. 1-2) — “I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say”

The Benediction

The Congregational Response

**I heard the voice of Jesus say, “I am this dark world’s Light;
look unto Me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright.”**

**I looked to Jesus and I found in Him my Star, my Sun;
and in that Light of Life I’ll walk, till trav’ling days are done.**

The Postlude — “I Know that My Redeemer Lives” George Shearing

WELCOME

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church! We are so glad you are here. If you are a visitor, we would love to know more about you. Please leave your contact information in the “Welcome Pad” at the end of your pew. We will follow up with you to introduce ourselves and tell you about ways to get plugged into the church.

EVENING WORSHIP

Six O'Clock

The Reverend Mr. Wiley P. Lowry III
Minister of Teaching and Pastoral Care

Mr. Owen Hallbach
Missions Fellow

The Greetings and Announcements (5:55 p.m.)

The Prelude — “Ashokan Farewell” Ms. Bonnie Brown, violinist

The Call to Worship — Lamentations 3:40, 41

The Hymn — “How Deep the Father’s Love”hymn sheet

The Invocation

The Hymn No. 401 — “All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night”

The Greetings

The Missions Report Mr. Jeff Saunders, MTW, Japan

The Evening Prayer.....Mr. Doug McDaniel, Ruling Elder

The Offering

The Offertory — “Dear Refuge of My Weary Soul”

Mrs. Genneysa Case, Soloist; Ms. Rebekah Lipscombe, Piano

The Young Children’s Devotional — *The Children’s Catechism*

Q111. What did Christ give us to teach us about prayer? **A. The Lord’s Prayer is, “Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.”**

* The Meditation & PrayerRev. Gary Sinclair, Assistant Pastor & FPDS Chaplain

The Hymn (stz. 1-2) — “Christ Is Mine Forevermore”hymn sheet

The Prayer of Illumination

The Scripture Reading — Lamentations 5pew Bible page 690

The Sermon.....Mr. Lowry

When the Foundations Are Shaken: Happily Ever After...

The Benediction

The Congregational Response

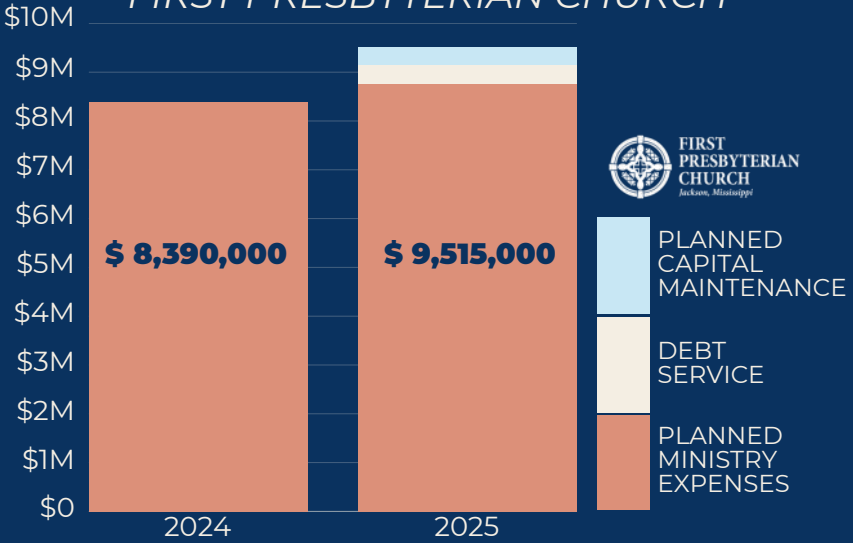
**Mine are days here as a stranger, pilgrim on a narrow way.
One with Christ I will encounter harm and hatred for His name.
But mine is armour for this battle, strong enough to last the war.
And He had said He will deliver safely to the golden shore.**

The Postlude

* Children ages four through third grade will be dismissed to a children’s devotional and can be picked up after the service in room 133, just outside the sanctuary doors.

MINISTRY EXPENSES 2024-2025

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



NEW ADDITIONS TO THE ANNUAL BUDGET



\$350,000 PLANNED CAPITAL MAINTENANCE

LOOKING AHEAD AT LONG-TERM NEEDS & STEWARDING OUR FACILITY WELL



\$400,000 ANNUAL DEBT SERVICE

ANNUAL MINIMUM REPAYMENT OF FUNDS BORROWED TO ADVANCE RECENT KEY PROJECTS: THE BAIRD CENTER, WELCOME CENTER, FPC & FPDS SPACE REORGANIZATION, AND TWIN LAKES CAPITAL NEEDS

MINISTRY GIVING

JAN-AUG 2025

\$4,509,028

47.4%

\$9.5M 2025 ANNUAL BUDGET

MISSIONS GIVING

JAN-AUG 2025

\$663,310

55.3%

\$1.2M 2025 MISSIONS GIVING GOAL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

We use a platform called ShelbyNext to house our church-wide “Digital Directory.” All members have access to the directory. Download the **ShelbyNEXT Membership** smartphone App or visit the ShelbyNext website fpcjackson.shelbynextchms.com. With questions or to set up your account for the first time, contact Kristina Barnes at kristinab@fpcjackson.org.

THE HOUSEHOLD OF GOD

Our 2025–2026 churchwide theme, **The Household of God**, reminds us that the Church is not merely a building but is the living family of God. Though the Church is imperfect, we do not turn away; but we renew our commitment to her as the bride of Christ, seeking to see her shine brightly. This year’s teaching theme calls us to look inward at our relationship with God, to look around at our church family and consider how we may show true brotherly love, and to look outward toward the mission of our congregation in Jackson, within the Presbyterian Church in America, and in the global task of proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ to the ends of the earth. Find out more and watch the Household of God theme video at fpcj.ms/household.

THE HOUSEHOLD OF GOD RECOMMENDED READING

This year, as a church family, we are exploring what it means to belong to the Household of God. To help us think deeply and live faithfully in light of this truth, we’ve prepared a recommended reading plan that pairs with our churchwide teaching series. These books have been thoughtfully chosen to encourage, challenge, and equip us. You can participate at your own pace. We encourage you to read at least one book from each section listed at fpcj.ms/household, or you may read them all! We will have informal meetings to discuss selected books from the reading list throughout the year.

FPDS ACORN FUND

As you are able, consider making a gift to the FPDS Acorn Fund, our school’s annual fund and a way that you as a church member can support the ministry of the school. Gifts to the Acorn Fund are used to recruit and retain the best teachers, provide academic excellence, and keep Christian education accessible through competitive tuition. Most importantly, a gift to the Acorn Fund is your opportunity to partner with FPDS as we grow our children from acorns of faith into “oaks of righteousness” (Isaiah 61:3). A gift to the Acorn Fund can be made at fpds.org/give, through the church app by selecting “Acorn Fund,” or by mailing a check made payable to First Presbyterian Day School–Acorn Fund to 1390 N. State Street, Jackson, MS 39202.

VISITING FPC DURING THE WEEK?

When you visit our church during business hours Monday-Friday for a meeting, Bible study, etc., the Security Committee kindly requests that you stop by the receptionist desk in the Welcome Center to sign in and sign out. We ask that all week-day visitors wear a name tag or member badge for the duration of your visit. Day School visitors may be checked in at the FPDS entrance on Belhaven Street. Thank you for helping us keep the building safe for our children and staff during the week!

PRAY FOR SUPPORTED MINISTRY PARTNERS

For detailed prayer requests and contact information for our supported missionaries and ministry partners, please contact Jo Lynn at jollynnm@fpcjackson.org.

Mary Baldwin – Mary serves in Athens, Greece with the Greek Bible College and Nea Zoi. Email: marybaldwin0@gmail.com.

Brock & Katie Larson – Brock serves as a church planter in Fargo, ND. Email: brock@christcovenantfargo.org

Jackson Leadership Foundation – Supported through Mission to Jackson under the guidance of the Benevolence Committee, JLF is a Christ-centered ministry seeking spiritual, social, and economic transformation in Jackson’s under-resourced communities through the empowerment of leaders, development of ministries, and networking of volunteers and donors.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOWERS

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jim Woodson by his family.

IN MEMORIAM

David Lee Thorne, Jr. — September 4, 2025

COLLEGE LUNCH — TODAY

College students are invited to a free lunch today at the Biggs home (4025 Crane Blvd.) following the 11 a.m. worship service. Contact Peyton for more information or if you need a ride at 205-613-1059.

MISSION REPORT — TONIGHT

Join us tonight during the evening worship service when we will hear a report from Jeff Saunders, RUF Campus Minister in Tokyo, Japan.

YOUNG ADULTS MEDICAL FELLOWSHIP — SEPTEMBER 18

Medical school is a demanding season, but the Lord calls us to find strength in His Word and in the fellowship of His people. Join us for a Medical Fellowship, Thursday, September 18, at 6:30 p.m., in Patterson Hall at FPC. This gathering is especially for those in medical training or preparing to enter it. We will share a meal, receive encouragement, and hear how others have stayed rooted in the life of the church while navigating the challenges of school. There's no cost to attend. Please register online at fpcj.ms/events so we can plan for food.

SENIOR ADULTS LUNCHEON — SEPTEMBER 19

Senior Adults, join us for an afternoon of food, fellowship, and fun on September 19, at 11:30 a.m. in Patterson Hall. We will begin with lunch, followed by a short message on the Household of God. The cost of the event is \$3 per person. We are asking attendees with the last names A-N to bring a side and those with O-Z to bring a dessert. The main dish will be provided by the church. If you would like to attend, RSVP by contacting Emily Eastman at 769-572-3535 or emilye@fpcjackson.org.

RYM LOCAL — SEPTEMBER 25-26

RYM Local is coming to Jackson, MS! This event, which will be hosted by FPC Jackson is designed to equip and encourage churches, parents, youth leaders, and volunteers as they disciple the next generation of the Church. The event will focus on "Cultivating Resilient Youth," a response to rising challenges such as anxiety, depression, and spiritual disengagement among today's youth. Register for the event at www.rym.org/local.

SERVE WEEK — REGISTER ONLINE

Register now for Serve Week, Sept. 29-Oct. 5, our week-long initiative connecting our church members with local ministry partners. Serve alongside your church family with teams at Mission First, Gateway, FPC's Internationals Ministry, The Center for Pregnancy Choices or We Will Go, and join us on Saturday to steward the onsite physical needs of FPC, FPDS, and Twin Lakes! Find out more and register at fpcj.ms/serve.

ONE SUNDAY 2025 — OCTOBER 19

Save the date: October 19 is One Sunday. Our church family will come together for One Sunday: one Sunday school, one worship service, and a church-wide lunch. Don't miss this special day in the life of our church as we celebrate the work God is doing at First Pres through your giving and generosity!

JUNIOR HIGH FALL RETREAT — OCTOBER 17-19

Join us for the Junior High Fall Retreat 2025, October 17-19, at Timber Creek Camp in Pulaski, MS. We will spend time meeting in small groups led by staff members, singing together, and listening to Jermaine Van Buren, RUF campus minister at Jackson State University, teach on Neighborly Love. Register by September 26 and pay the early bird price of \$95. Register online at fpcj.ms/events.

FPC THIS WEEK

Sunday, September 14, 2025

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship Services	Sanctuary
9:45 a.m.	Sunday School	Various Locations
9:45 a.m.	Membership Class	M123
11:00 a.m.	Children's Churchtime for 3 and 4 year olds	M135
12:15 p.m.	College Lunch	The Biggs' Home (4025 Crane Blvd.)
4:30 p.m.	Student Choir Rehearsal	MS
5:00 p.m.	Prayer for Global Missions	Parlor
6:00 p.m.	Evening Worship Service	Sanctuary (age 4 through 3rd grade dismissed for Children's Classes)
7:30 p.m.	Senior High Insight	the Brown Home (615 Old Agency Rd.)

Monday, September 15, 2025

5:30 p.m.	Diaconate Meeting	PH
6:30 p.m.	Session Meeting	MS

Tuesday, September 16, 2025

9:30 a.m.	French Camp Quilters	Bookstore
9:30 a.m.	Sew & Sow	WH 302
10:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study	WH 305
12:00 p.m.	Weekday Prayer Meeting	PH
6:00 p.m.	MOMS at Night Bible Study	MS
7:00 p.m.	Internationals Class	PH

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

9:00 a.m.	MOMS Bible Study	MH
9:00 a.m.	Women's Bible and Prayer Time	We Will Go (806 N Farish St.)
9:30 a.m.	GriefShare	Parlor
5:00-6:00 p.m.	Midweek Dinner	MH
5:00 p.m.	Families Count	PH
5:30 p.m.	Children's Playtime	Playground
5:50 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal	MS
6:00 p.m.	Midweek Programs for Adults	
	I Love Thy Church, O God	MH
	D Groups	Various Locations
	College D Group	WH 302
	Evangelism Training	WH 204B
	Prayer Meeting and Bible Study	The Session Room
6:00 p.m.	Children's Choirs	Playground
6:00 p.m.	Rise: Sixth Grade Fellowship	SC 211
6:00 p.m.	Junior High & Senior High D Groups	YH & Baird Center Gym

Thursday, September 18, 2025

9:15 a.m.	Women's Bible Study: Exodus	PH
9:45 a.m.	Women's Bible Study: Romans	MH
6:30 p.m.	Young Adults Medical Fellowship	PH

Friday, September 19, 2025

11:30 a.m.	Senior Adults Luncheon	PH
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Saturday, September 20, 2025

7:30 a.m.	Men's Prayer Breakfast	PH
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Sunday, September 21, 2025

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship Services	Sanctuary
9:45 a.m.	Sunday School	Various Locations
9:45 a.m.	Membership Class	M123
11:00 a.m.	Children's Churchtime for 3 and 4 year olds	M135
4:30 p.m.	Student Choir Rehearsal	MS
5:00 p.m.	Prayer for Global Missions	Parlor
6:00 p.m.	Evening Worship Service	Sanctuary (age 4 through 3rd grade dismissed for Children's Classes)
7:30 p.m.	Senior High Insight	the Jones Home (4005 Roxbury Rd.)